

## The ICMDA National Institute of Health Sciences Update

### News

- The Institute completed its first term of studies in which the students studied Anatomy & Physiology, Socio-Psychology, Nutrition, Microbiology and First Aid. They also did courses on the Foundations of Clinical Medicine, Public Health, Nursing and Midwifery.
- In early July the “Memorandum of Agreement” between ICMDA Health Initiatives South Sudan and Mengo Hospital was signed by Dr. Vinod Shah and Dr. Rose Mutumba, Medical Director.
- **Dr. Shalini Ninan Cherian** joined from July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014 as Medical Tutor and Head of Clinical Medicine (Clinical Officers).
- **Ms. Jasper Damaris**, M.Sc Nurse from Ranipet/EHA joined as Nurse Tutor and Academic Registrar from August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- We have three **volunteer nurse tutors** from ICMDA/ Christian Nurses Fellowship (CNF) Egypt join us in August. Dr. Lilliane Narouz is part of the Department of Nursing in Cairo and she has brought with her Reda Raid and George Raid two B.Sc Nurses. Lilliane and Georg will be with us till November 2014 and will be a great support to the teaching programme.
- Dr. Anil Cherian, Director of the Institute participated in the ICMDA World Congress in Rotterdam and present at a seminar along with Dr. Alex Bolek and Dr. Stephen Muhudhia on the ICMDA Health Initiative and the launching of the Institute. Anglican International Development had a stall at the congress where they also informed people about the Institute.
- **Students picnic:** The students and staff of the Institute took a day off to enjoy a picnic at the Aero beach on Lake Victoria near Entebbe on July 13<sup>th</sup>, This was the first time many of them has seen Lake Victoria and they enjoyed jumping in to the water and swimming.
- **Student Guild Event:** Every term the students guild ( council) organises an event for the students. This term we held the Student Guild event was held on August 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was a day when the students and staff got together to play games and the students organised some entertainment including songs, skits and dances.
- **Annual Student Retreat:** Another event on the students calendar that was held at the end of the term was a two day spiritual retreat. The retreat was organised on the 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> August at the Church of Uganda Lweza Training and Retreat Centre. We had speakers from the Uganda CMF and the staff led the worship and bible study. Some of the students shared their life stories and testified to God’s goodness in their lives. The retreat was a time of relaxation and reflection and we it was really blessing to all who attended.

### **Praise**

- For the completion of the first term of the Institute. For bringing the students safely, providing for them, for the establishment of the student houses, kitchen, training facilities.
- For the partnership and support of the Mengo Hospital, Kampala which is an institution under the Church of Uganda.
- For the new staff and volunteers who have joined the Institute and have relieved the teaching load on the existing staff. The staff have more time to prepare for the lessons.
- For enabling Dr. Anil Cherian to attend the ICMDA World Congress and report on the progress of the Institution. Also that the congress provided a platform to inform ICMDA members and others about the ICMDA Health Initiatives South Sudan and the launching of the ICMDA National Institute of Health Sciences Jonglei.
- Enabling the 51 students to join the courses to become clinical officers, registered nurses and midwives. Also for being with them and protecting them during this initial phase of their studies.
- For the Students picnic, Student Guild event and the Annual Students retreat. Especially for the students who made a commitment and dedicated their lives.
- For being with the staff and giving the strength and grace to overcome the many challenges that they encountered during these initial days and for the wonderful way in which God has been leading and guiding us.
- For the financial support from CORDAID and also for the wonderful way in which Anglican International Development and its supporting churches have been helping us in the establishment of this institution.

### **Prayer Points**

- All the students will be able to obtain student passes that will enable them to study in Uganda. They arrived on 3 month visa's which have to be converted **to student passes**. We are working with the Ministry of Immigration in Kampala to facilitate this process.
- The three international staff – Shalini, Jasper and I will have to get work permits. We pray that the process will move forward smoothly and that we will be able to obtain all the necessary supporting documents.
- For the implementation of the curriculum during the second term from September to December 2014.
- For the curriculum planning and the changes that we are piloting during the coming term to improve the quality of learning and the student performance.
- For the health of the Staff and the students. We specially request prayer for Ms. Lillian Nakimera, Nurse Tutor who was discovered in August to have a solid liver mass. We are waiting for the biopsy and praying that it would be a benign lesion. Also for the students who have been falling sick.
- For the constraints with class rooms and access to the Mengo training facilities. We sometimes find it challenging to meet the needs of the curriculum and access

some of the facilities. We require better coordination between the Institute programme and the staff of the Mengo School of Nursing.

- For all the student guild events that have been scheduled for the coming term.
- For some of the students who have been struggling to cope with the pace of studies and understanding the subject content. Pray the God will grant the strength to persevere and work hard and improve their performance. Pray that the special tutorials being organised for these students will be useful.
- Pray for the International volunteers from Egypt who have been us and helping with the training, Pray specially for Lilliane, Evonne and Georg who will be with us till November.
- For the finances for the next quarter. Pray that we will be able to work within are budget and meet all our needs. For the purchase of a vehicle for the Institute in the coming months.

